coli, Bacillus sp and *Pseudomonas sp.* Preferred eukaryotic cells include yeast, fungal, mammalian and insect cells.

Accordingly, another aspect of the present invention contemplates a genetic construct comprising a vector portion and a gene capable of encoding a peptide according to the invention, or a peptide which can be post translationally modified to provide a peptide according to the invention.

Preferably, the gene portion of the genetic construct is operably linked to a promoter on the vector such that said promoter is capable of directing expression of the gene portion in an appropriate cell.

The present invention extends to such genetic constructs and to prokaryotic or eukaryotic cells comprising same.

It should thus be understood that the terms conotoxin peptide or conotoxins are not limited to naturally occurring toxic peptides obtained from the genus *Conus* but rather simply indicates an initial source from which the peptides have been derived. Conotoxin peptides may be synthetically created, non-naturally occurring non-toxic peptide derivatives. Conopeptides is an alternative term interchangeable with conotoxin peptides.

The χ-conotoxin peptides according to the present invention are active in inhibiting neuronal noradrenaline transporter. Accordingly the invention provides the use of the χ-conotoxin peptides as inhibitors of neuronal noradrenaline transporter, and in the treatment or prophylaxis of diseases or conditions in relation to which the inhibition of neuronal noradrenaline transporter is associated with effective treatment. Such activity in pharmacological agents is associated with activity in the prophylaxis or treatment of diseases or conditions of the urinary or cardiovascular systems, or mood disorders, or in the treatment or control of acute, chronic and or neuropathic pain, migraine or inflammation.

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peptides identified in WO 00/20444 were MrIA and MrIB which have the following sequences:

χ-MrIA	Asn Gly Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys His Hyp Cys	SEQ ID NO. 1
χ-MrIB	Val Gly Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys His Hyp Cys	SEQ ID NO. 2

In these and following sequences Hyp refers to 4-hydroxy proline. In nature, this amino acid residue results from post translational modification of the encoded peptide and is not directly encoded by the nucleotide sequence.

Additional χ-conotoxin peptides have also now been described by Balaji *et al.* (2000 J. Biol. Chem. 27539516-39522), McIntosh J *et al.* (WO00/44769). These peptides, Mar2, CMrVIA and CMRx (or UO36), have the following sequences:

Mar2	Gly Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys Cys His Hyp Cys	SEQ ID NO. 7
CMrVIA	Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys His Hyp Cys	SEQ ID NO. 8
CMRx	Gly Ile Cys Cys Gly Val Ser Phe Cys Tyr Hyp Cys	SEQ ID NO. 9

Other χ-type conotoxin peptides have been described by Olivera *et al.* (WO02/064740) although the disulphide connectivity and activity of these peptides does not appear to be described. Some of those peptides are as follows:

Bn1.5	Ala Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys Ser Pro Cys#	SEQ ID NO. 10
Mr1.3	Asn Gly Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys Leu Pro Cys^	SEQ ID NO. 11
Au1.4	Ser Val Cys Cys Gly Tyr Lys Leu Cys Phe Pro Cys^	SEQ ID NO. 12

The '^' indicates that the C-terminus is preferably free carboxyl and '#' indicates that it is preferably amidated.

Compounds which inhibit neurotransmitter reuptake have been found to be useful in the treatment of acute, chronic and/or neuropathic pain, migraine and inflammation. Such